

Message Text

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10/21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 NIC-01

OC-05 CCO-00 BIB-01 /063 W

----- 094523

R 271630Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7671

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBSSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 1644

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (REFERENCE)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN, PROP, BU, GR

SUBJECT: USE OF KAVALA TRANSMITTER

REFS: STATE 033432, SOFIA 0300, BELGRADE 826

1. SUMMARY. WE SUGGEST RISKS OUTRUN ADVANTAGES
OF LAUNCHING VOA MW BULGARIAN BROADCASTS AT THIS TIME.
END SUMMARY.

2. IT IS A RULE OF THUMB THAT WHENEVER GREEK-TURKISH
RELATIONS DETERIORATE, GREEK-SLAV RELATIONS IMPROVE.
SINCE THE CYPRUS CRISIS IN JULY, GREECE'S RELATIONS
WITH TURKEY HAVE BEEN VERY BAD INDEED AND AS A RESULT
GREEKS HAVE ONCE AGAIN BEEN PROMISING BALKAN DETENTE.
UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT IS SAFE TO SAY THAT SHOULD
THE BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT PRESSURE THE GREEKS TO CLOSE
DOWN KAVALA VOA BULGARIAN MW BROADCASTS (SOFIA'S 0300)
THERE WOULD BE LITTLE RESISTANCE FROM THE GREEKS. AT
A TIME WHEN A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF POLITICAL CAPITAL IS TO
BE EARNED BY DEMONSTRATING GREECE'S "INDEPENDENCE"
OF THE U.S., ACCOMMODATING THE BULGARIANS IN THIS WAY
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WOULD ALSO, IN GREEK EYES, HAVE FRINGE BENEFITS. IN

ADDITION, WE AGREE WITH EMBASSY BELGRADE (BELGRADE 826)
THAT THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO STIR UP THE "MACEDONIAN
QUESTION", A PROBLEM WHICH HAS AN INFINITE CAPACITY
TO OBFUSCATE OTHER ISSUES WITHOUT WORKING TO ANYONE'S
ADVANTAGE. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE WOUOD PREFER
NOT RPT NOT TO HAVE VOA USE KAVALA TRANSMITTER IN THIS
WAY.
KUBISCH

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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